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## Zagreus



|                   |                                                                                                            |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Names (S)</b>  | Zagreus                                                                                                    |
| <b>Rules Over</b> | Underworld, Mysteries, Hunting, Rebirth                                                                    |
| <b>Title</b>      | God Of Mysteries<br>God Of Hunting<br>God Of Rebirth                                                       |
| <b>Gender</b>     | Male                                                                                                       |
| <b>Items</b>      | Nil                                                                                                        |
| <b>Parents</b>    | <a href="#">Hades</a> and <a href="#">Persephone</a> , <a href="#">Zeus</a> and <a href="#">Persephone</a> |
| <b>Consort</b>    | No information                                                                                             |
| <b>Siblings</b>   | <a href="#">Makaria</a> , <a href="#">Melinoe</a> , <a href="#">Ploutos</a>                                |



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*"Mistress Earth [Gaia], and Zagreus highest of all the gods."*

And apparently for Aeschylus, Zagreus was, in fact, an underworld god. In a fragment from one of Aeschylus'



lost *Sisyphus* plays (c. 5th century BC), Zagreus seems to be the son of Hades, while in Aeschylus' *Egyptians* (*Algyptioi*), Zagreus was apparently identified with Hades himself. A fragment from Euripides' lost play *Cretan Men* (*Kretes*) has the chorus describe themselves as initiates of Idaean Zeus and celebrants of "night-ranging Zagreus, performing his feasts of raw flesh".

In Greek a hunter who catches living animals is called *zagreus*, Karl Kerényi notes, and the Ionian word *zagre* signifies a "pit for the capture of live animals". "We may justifiably ask," observes Kerenyi, "Why was this great mythical hunter, who in Greece became a mysterious god of the underworld, a capturer of wild animals and not a killer?" Kerényi links the figure of Zagreus with archaic Dionysiac rites in which small animals were torn limb from limb and their flesh devoured raw, "not as an emanation of the Greek Dionysian religion, but rather as a migration or survival of a prehistoric rite".

- ↑ (Gantz, Timothy (1993). *Early Greek Myth: A Guide to Literary and Artistic Sources*. p. 118.)
- ↑ (West, Martin L (1983). *The Orphic Poems*. p. 153.)
- ↑ (Edmunds, Radcliffe (1999). *Tearing Apart the Zagreus Myth: A Few Disparaging Remarks on Orphism and Original Sin*. p. 37.)
- ↑ (Smith, William (1892). *A Dictionary of Greek and Roman biography and mythology*.)
- ↑ (Linthorh, Ivan M (1941). *The Arts of Orpheus*. p. 311)
- ↑ (Gantz, Timothy (1993). *Early Greek Myth: A Guide to Literary and Artistic Sources*. p. 118.)

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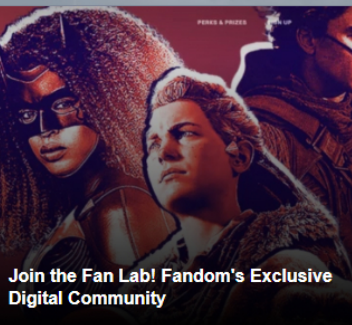
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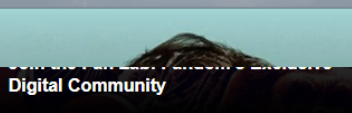
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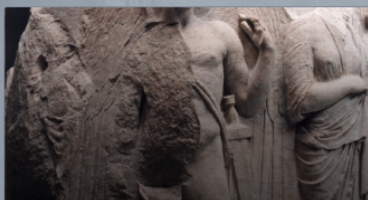
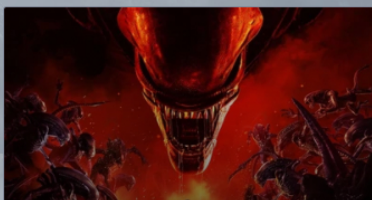
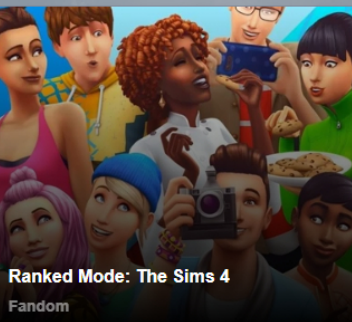
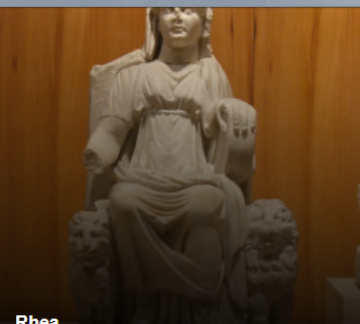
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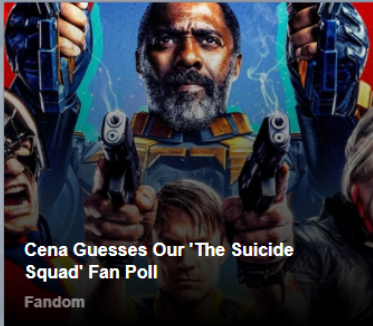
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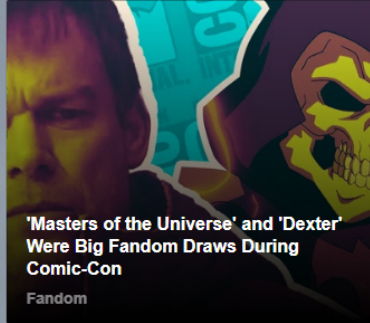


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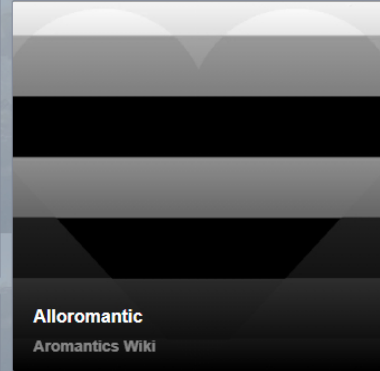
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